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E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/19/2017

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SUBJECT: ELECTION FOR THE COMMITTEE ON THE ELIMINATION OF
RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

REF: A. (A) STATE 157598

[1](#)B. (B) OSTERMEIER-LYNG 9/28/2007 E-MAIL

Classified By: Deputy Political Section Chief Ben Moeling. Reasons 1.4
(B) and (D).

[1](#)1. (C) Poloff on November 19 conveyed to the MFA ref a points urging China to support U.S. candidate Pierre-Richard Prosper's reelection to the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Committee). Guo Xiaomei of MFA's Treaty and Law Department, alluding to the P-5 "Gentleman's Agreement," said China would support Prosper's candidacy with the understanding that the United States would support China's candidate to the CERD, Huang Yongan.

[1](#)2. (C) We note that China in September offered to support U.S. candidate for the Convention Against Torture Committee Felice Gaer in return for U.S. support for the abovementioned Huang Yongan. On September 28, as instructed (ref b), we informed the MFA that the United States does not trade votes, but that we would "closely consider China's CERD candidate and greatly value the P-5 Gentleman's Agreement." China reportedly later voted in favor of Gaer's candidacy.
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